LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration comprising

a) a magnesium component ~~comprising magnesium or a~~ having an active ingredient consisting essentially of one or more magnesium ~~compound~~ compounds and a release-controlling agent which substantially prevents release of said one or more magnesium compounds until passage out of the stomach and into the intestine of the host; and

b) ~~an interactive agent~~ a calcium component ~~comprising~~ having an active ingredient consisting essentially of one or more calcium compounds ~~an agent which interacts with said host to affect bio-uptake of said magnesium~~; ~~and~~

wherein substantially all of said ~~interactive agent~~ calcium component is released before passage into said intestine of said host.

2. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1, wherein said ~~magnesium component further comprises~~ release-controlling agent is an enteric coating having a pH dissolution point of from about 5 to about 8.

3. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 2, wherein said coating has a pH dissolution point of from about 6.5 to about 7.2.

4. (Cancelled) ~~A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1, wherein said interactive agent component comprises calcium or phosphate.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to ~~Claim 4~~ Claim 1, wherein the ratio of said calcium component to said magnesium component is from 1:5 to 5:1.

6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 5, wherein the ratio of said calcium component to said magnesium component is from 2:1 to 3:1.

7. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 2, wherein said enteric coating is applied by contacting said ~~composition~~ magnesium component with an aqueous suspension or an organic solvent.

8. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to ~~Claim 7~~ Claim 2, wherein said ~~polymer~~ enteric coating is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate ("HPMCP") and a methacrylic acid copolymer.

9. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 7, wherein said aqueous suspension is polyvinylacetate phthalate or cellulose acetate phthalate or a mixture thereof in combination with a plasticizing agent.

10. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1, wherein said magnesium component of said composition is one of a core, a layer or granules,

and wherein said ~~magnesium component comprises~~ release-controlling agent is an enteric coating having a pH dissolution point of from about 6.5 to about 7.2.

11. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 10, wherein said ~~magnesium compound~~ one or more magnesium compounds is selected from the group consisting of magnesium citrate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium oxide, magnesium carbonate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium sulfate, magnesium phosphate, magnesium aspartate and combinations thereof.

12. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 11, wherein said composition is in a unit dosage form selected from the group consisting of a direct compression tablet, a hard shell capsule, a layered tablet or a dry coated tablet.

13. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to ~~Claim 4~~ Claim 1, wherein said one or more calcium compounds is ~~present as one of~~ calcium carbonate, calcium citrate, calcium propionate, calcium gluconate, calcium sulfate, calcium ascorbate or combinations thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration comprising:

a) a magnesium component ~~comprising magnesium or a~~ having an active ingredient consisting essentially of one or more magnesium ~~compound~~ compounds selected from the group consisting of ~~is~~ magnesium citrate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium oxide,

magnesium carbonate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium sulfate, magnesium phosphate, magnesium aspartate and combinations thereof, wherein said magnesium component has a pH sensitive enteric polymer coating having a pH dissolution point of from about 6.5 to about 7.2; and

b) ~~an interactive agent~~ a calcium component ~~comprising calcium or a~~ having an active ingredient consisting essentially of one or more calcium ~~compound~~ compounds selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, calcium citrate, calcium propionate, calcium gluconate, calcium sulfate, calcium ascorbate and combinations thereof;

wherein the ratio of said calcium component to said magnesium component is from 1:5 to 5:1.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering to a host magnesium and ~~an interactive agent~~ calcium, said method comprising:

ingesting a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a magnesium component ~~comprising magnesium or a~~ having an active ingredient consisting essentially of one or more magnesium ~~compound~~ compounds selected from the group consisting of ~~is~~ magnesium citrate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium oxide, magnesium carbonate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium sulfate, magnesium phosphate, magnesium aspartate and combinations thereof, wherein said magnesium component has a pH sensitive enteric polymer coating having a pH dissolution point of from about 6.5 to about 7.2; and

b) ~~an interactive agent~~ a calcium component ~~comprising~~ having an active ingredient consisting essentially of one or more calcium compounds ~~an agent which interacts with said host to affect bio-uptake of said magnesium~~;

wherein substantially all of said ~~interactive agent~~ calcium component is released before passage into said intestine of said host and substantially all of said magnesium component is released after passage out of the stomach and into the intestine of the host.

16. (Cancelled) ~~A method for delivering to a host magnesium and an interactive agent according to Claim 15, wherein said interactive agent component comprises calcium or phosphate.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering to a host magnesium and ~~an interactive agent~~ calcium according to ~~Claim 16~~ Claim 15, wherein the ratio of said calcium component to said magnesium component is from 1:5 to 5:1.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering to a host magnesium and ~~an interactive agent~~ calcium according to ~~Claim 16~~ Claim 15, wherein said one or more calcium compounds is ~~present as one of~~ calcium carbonate, calcium citrate, calcium propionate, calcium gluconate, calcium sulfate, ~~or~~ calcium ascorbate or combinations thereof.